STATE OF ARIZONA FILED

MAR 23 2005.

STATE OF ARIZONA

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

DEPT OF INSURANCE
BY

In the Matter of:

MATTHEW NATHAN ROSE

No. 04A-210-INS

CONSENT ORDER

Respondent.

On December 23, 2004, the State of Arizona, Department of Insurance (the "Department"), issued a Notice of Hearing in the matter of Matthew Nathan Rose ("Rose"). On January 27, 2005, the Director of the Department of Insurance (the "Director") entered Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order, finding Rose in default, ordering revocation of his insurance license, and vacating the administrative hearing. Rose appealed the default order. On February 10, 2005, the Director entered an Order Setting Aside Default and Setting Matter for Hearing. Rose wishes to waive his right to a hearing and resolve this matter. Rose admits the following Findings of Fact are true and consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Matthew Nathan Rose ("Rose") is currently and was at all material times licensed as a resident Life and Accident/Health producer, Arizona license number 155616, which expires on June 30, 2005.
- 2. Rose's residence and business address of record with the Department is 4849 E. Roosevelt, #1120, Phoenix, Arizona 85008.
- 3. On June 3, 2004, the Department received a complaint from Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Arizona ("BCBSAZ") alleging that Rose made untruthful remarks about BCBSAZ and its individual insurance products. BCBSAZ provided the Department with an e-mail sent by Rose to John Antanies dated May 10, 2004 showing that Rose made untrue statements regarding the rate increases of BCBSAZ policies when compared to National Association for the Self-Employed ("NASE") policies.

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- 4. On June 9, 2004, the Department sent a letter to Rose asking that he respond to the allegations and issues raised by the BCBSAZ complaint and to provide documentation to support the statements made in the May 10, 2004 e-mail to John Antanies.
- 5. On July 1 and 7, 2004, Rose represented to the Department that all the statements made in his e-mail were the result of information and documentation he received in training from NASE. Rose further represented that he had only solicited for The MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company ("MEGA") 1.
- 6. On July 8, 2004, the Department spoke with Jeanne Duke, Vice President, Product Development of UGA Association of Field Services ("UGA"), a division of MEGA. She stated that MEGA has a standard training procedure in which they stress the importance of not comparing coverages of other companies to consumers.
- 7. On July 23, 2004, the Department received a letter from Rose wherein he attempted to explain each untruthful comment referenced in the BCBSAZ complaint. Rose also provided printed information he received during his training with NASE but did not provide any documentation to support the statements made in his May 10, 2004 e-mail to John Antanies.
- 8. On August 20, 2004, the Department received a copy of the training materials used by UGA to train its Arizona agents. A portion of the materials covers advertising guidelines and unfair and deceptive trade practices.
- 9. On September 16, 2004, the Department contacted Rose informing him of its investigatory conclusions and that he needed to update his address with the Department. Rose's current residential and business address is: 12805 W. Corrine Drive, El Mirage, Arizona 85335. Rose has not executed a change of address form with the Department.
- 10. On September 24, 2004, the Department contacted John Antanies regarding the e-mail sent to him by Rose on May 10, 2004. John Antanies provided BCBSAZ with Rose's e-mail

¹ MEGA provides the coverage offered by NASE.

after he purchased a policy with BCBSAZ.

- 11. On October 7, 2004, the Department received further information from BCBSAZ in response to its request stating that they received a copy of Rose's e-mail from Tony Lehrman, an independent broker with a group in Tucson, Arizona.
- 12. BCBSAZ rate filings made with the Department, effective May 10, 2004, show rate increases far below the increase alleged by Rose.
- 13. On October 14, 2004, MEGA provided the Department with further information regarding Rose and its position with regard to Rose's e-mail to John Antanies on May 10, 2004. MEGA provided the applicable product brochures for the health benefit plans Rose likely provided to John Antanies. MEGA states that Rose's representation regarding MEGA rate increases is an inaccurate advertisement and not approved by MEGA.
- 14. On October 5, 2004, Rose contacted the Department in response to a request for further information stating that the plan he offered John Antanies was the Gold Program but was unclear which particular riders had been discussed.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Director has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. Respondent's conduct, as alleged above, constitutes false or deceptive advertising of insurance in the form of a letter, a violation of A.R.S. § 20-444(A).
- 3. Respondent's conduct, as alleged above, constitutes using disparaging comparisons or statements, a violation of Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C.") R20-6-201(J).
- 4. Respondent's conduct, as alleged above, constitutes failure to notify the director in writing within 30 days of any change in a residential or business address, in violation of A.R.S. § 20-286(C)(1).
- 5. Respondent's conduct, as alleged above, constitutes the violation of any provision of Title 20, or any rule, subpoena or order of the Director, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(2).

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Grounds exist to suspend, revoke or refuse to renew Respondent's resident Life and 6. Accident/Health producer's license and/or impose a civil penalty, pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 20-295(A) and (F). ORDER IT IS ORDERED:

- Respondent Rose shall cease and desist making any misrepresentation, false advertising or disparaging comparison regarding insurance in any form.
- The Arizona Resident Life and Accident/Health Producer License of Respondent 2. . Matthew Nathan Rose, License Number 155616, is hereby suspended for a period of fourteen (14) days from the entry of this Consent Order.
- 3. Respondent Rose shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) to the Director, for remission to the State Treasurer for deposit into the State General Fund, due six months from the entry of this Consent Order.
- The administrative hearing in this matter, currently scheduled for March 24, 2005, at 9:00 a.m., at the Office of Administrative Hearings, is hereby vacated.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this day of

> Christina Urias, Director Arizona Department of Insurance

CONSENT TO ORDER

- Respondent has reviewed the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.
- Respondent admits the jurisdiction of the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, and 2. admits the foregoing Findings of Fact and consents to the entry of the foregoing Conclusions of Law and Order.

Respondent is aware of his right to notice and a hearing at which he may be

Respondent states that no promise of any kind or nature, except as expressly

represented by counsel, present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. Respondent irrevocably

contained in this Consent Order, was made to him to induce him to enter into this Consent Order,

waives his right to a hearing and to any court appeals relating to this Consent Order.

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and that he has entered into this Consent Order voluntarily.

5. Respondent acknowledges that the acceptance of this Consent Order by the Director is solely to settle this matter against him and does not preclude any other agency, officer or subdivision of this state from instituting civil or criminal proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future.

3 3 3 Matthew Nathan Rose

Allen Reed, Administrative Law Judge Office of Administrative Hearings 1400 W. Washington, Suite 101

COPY of the foregoing mailed this

Catherine M. O'Neil, Consumer Legal Affairs Officer Scott Greenberg, Chief Operating Officer

Amold Sniegowski, Investigations Supervisor Bob Hill, Investigator

Arizona Department of Insurance 2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 210 Phoenix, Arizona 85018

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Mary E. Kosinski, Assistant Attorney General 1275 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Attorney for the Arizona Department of Insurance

AND COPY MAILED SAME DATE by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, to:

Matthew Nathan Rose 12805 W. Corrine Drive El Mirage, AZ 85335 Respondent

893571; CPA04-321